

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph 0004 (page 1, lines 25-30 and page 2, lines 1-4 of the original specification) with the following paragraph.

U.S. Pat. No. 3,114,919 issued to Kenreich on December 24, 1963 discloses a machine that can wash and dry using conventional laundry soap, however, this apparatus can only wash one shirt, or the like, and one pair of pants, or the like, at a time. In addition, this patent discloses an apparatus that has fixed outlets for dispensing wash and rinse water. This patent, like U.S. Pat. No. 3,664,159 issued to Mazza on May 23, 1972, utilizes a shaking of the garments to remove dirt and debris from the garments. However, shaking the garments can cause the garments to fall during the wash cycle, and can impart wrinkles to the garments. In addition, these patents teach that the wash water is applied from the top and bottom of the clothing, and not at close range along the length of the clothing.

Please replace paragraph 0005 (page 2, lines 5-11 of the original specification) with the following paragraph.

Finally, U.S. Pat. No. 3,672,188 issued to Geschka et al. on Jun. 27, 1972 discloses an apparatus that uses conventional laundry soap water, and hot air to wash and dry clothes. However, in this patent the soap and water are applied to the garments from top and bottom nozzles. Likewise, in U.S. Pat. No. 3,868,835 issued to Todd-Reeve on Mar. 4, 1975, the water and soap are applied from nozzles located near the top and bottom of the apparatus. In neither of these apparatuses is the soap and water applied over the entire length of the garments at close range.

Please replace paragraph 0006 (page 2, lines 13-17 of the original specification) with the following paragraph.

In one aspect of the present invention, a garment processing apparatus includes a manifold having a plurality of arms, each of the arms being configured to discharge air, a cabinet configured to support ~~a plurality of~~ one or more garments with each of the garments positioned between a different pair of adjacent arms, and a condenser configured to remove water from the air discharged from the manifold.

Please replace paragraph 0007 (page 2, lines 18-24 of the original specification) with the following paragraph.

In another aspect of the present invention, a garment processing apparatus includes an air pump, a manifold coupled to the air pump, the manifold having a plurality of horizontal arms, each of the arms having ~~a plurality of~~ one or more exits. The garment processing apparatus also includes a cabinet having a hanging bar from which ~~a plurality of~~ one or more garments may be supported with each of the garments positioned between a different pair of adjacent arms, the cabinet further having an air outlet, and a condenser disposed between the air outlet of the cabinet and the air pump.

Please replace paragraph 0008 (page 2, lines 25-29 of the original specification) with the following paragraph.

In yet another aspect of the present invention, a garment processing apparatus includes means for supporting a ~~plurality of~~ one or more garments, means for blowing air at close range onto each of the garments from a manifold that traverses the length of the garments at least one time, means for recirculating the air blown onto each of the garments back to the manifold, and means for removing water from the recirculated air.

Please replace paragraph 0009 (page 3, lines 1-5 of the original specification) with the following paragraph.

In a further aspect of the present invention, a garment processing apparatus includes means for supporting a ~~plurality of~~ one or more garments, means for blowing air at close range onto both sides of each of the garments from a manifold, means for recirculating the air blown onto each of the garments back to the manifold, and means for removing water from the recirculated air.

Please replace paragraph 0010 (page 3, lines 6-10 of the original specification) with the following paragraph.

In yet a further aspect of the present invention, a garment processing apparatus includes a manifold having a plurality of arms, each of the arms being configured to discharge air, a cabinet configured to support ~~a plurality of~~ one or more garments with each of the garments positioned between a different pair of adjacent arms, and a steam generator configured to inject steam into the air discharged by the manifold.

Please replace paragraph 0011 (page 3, lines 11-16 of the original specification) with the following paragraph.

In another aspect of the present invention, a garment processing apparatus includes a manifold having a plurality of arms, each of the arms being configured to discharge air, a cabinet configured to support ~~a plurality of~~ one or more garments with each of the garments positioned between a different pair of adjacent arms, a reservoir configured to hold a chemical agent, and a pump configured to inject the chemical agent from the reservoir into the air discharged from the manifold.

Please replace paragraph 0012 (page 3, lines 17-21 of the original specification) with the following paragraph.

In yet another aspect of the present invention, a method of processing garments includes supporting ~~a plurality of~~ one or more garments in a cabinet, blowing air at close range onto both sides of the garments in the cabinet from a manifold, recirculating the air blown onto each of the garments back to the manifold, and removing water from the recirculated air.

Please replace paragraph 0029 (page 5 lines 23-30, of the original specification) with the following paragraph.

A manifold may be used to supply water, steam and/or air to the ~~clothes~~ garments. Chemical agents for treating the garments may be injected into the water, steam and/or air stream in the manifold. The manifold may include a series of ~~arms~~. ~~arms, with one arm on each side of the garment. The arms may contain nozzles directed downward and toward the garments.~~ A respective pair of the series of arms is disposed on each side of a garment suspended therebetween. Each pair of arms contains orifices, such as nozzles, configured to direct fluids, such as water, steam, and/or air stream, at a downward angle on both sides of the garment disposed therebetween. The manifold, arms, and nozzles may contain a dual internal system of pipes. One set of internal pipes allows wash water and/or rinse water to be directed at close range toward the ~~clothes~~ garments. The other set of internal pipes allows air and/or steam to be directed at close range toward the ~~clothes~~ garments.

Please replace paragraph 0032 (page 6, lines 10-16 of the original specification) with the following paragraph.

In the drying cycle, air and/or steam may travel through the second set of internal pipes in the manifold, through the arms, and out a separate set of nozzles and toward the ~~clothes~~ garments. The air may be used to dry the garments and the steam may be used to remove the wrinkles from the garments. Chemical agents may be injected into the steam and/or air stream. The steam, and more particularly, the air may be re-circulated through a condenser. The condenser may be used to remove the moisture from the steam and/or air stream.

Please replace paragraph 0022 (page 4, line 15 of the original specification) with the following paragraph.

FIG. 3B is a ~~cross-sectional perspective~~ front elevation view of the manifold of FIG. 3A;

Please replace paragraph 0043 (page 9, lines 12-16 of the original specification) with the following paragraph.

Referring to FIGS. 1 and 3A-3C, a manifold 40 may be used to supply water, steam and/or air to the clothes. The manifold 40 may include a plurality of arms 42. The arms 42 may be in a single plane, parallel to each other, and perpendicular to the hanging bar 30. The arms 42 may extend on each side of the ~~between~~ hanger-mounted garments 26. The first arm in the parallel plane is 42a, and the last arm in the parallel plane is 42z. The arms 42 are configured such that a hanger-mounted garment 26 may be disposed between and proximate to a pair of the arms 42. For example, a pair of the arms 42 are arms 42a and 42b.

Please replace paragraph 0047 (page 10, lines 7-13 of the original specification) with the following paragraph.

In either case, once the water (with or without chemical agents) reaches the manifold 40, it may exit the arms 42 and spray the hanger-mounted garments 26 through liquid-exits 44. The liquid-exits 44 are configured such that individual hanger mounted garments 26 disposed adjacent thereto may be sprayed on both sides with the water/detergent mixture. The manifold 40 may move up and down the length of the hanger-mounted garments 26 spraying both sides of garments 26 with the water. For example, as illustrated in FIG. 1, the manifold 40 may be vertically positioned to receive a hanger-mounted garment 26 between two adjacent arms 42. The liquid-exits 44 of the two adjacent arms 42 facing the hanger-mounted garment 26 may be used to spray both sides of the hanger-mounted garment 26 at a close range. The water may run off the garments 26, down to the bottom wall 12f, through the drain 14, and back to the water pump 82. A waste water valve 94 may be used to recirculate the water, or discharge the water through a water outlet pipe 96.

Please replace paragraph 0035 (page 10, lines 21-25 of the original specification) with the following paragraph.

Referring to FIG. 1, an apparatus 10 may include a cabinet 12 with a front wall 12a, a rear wall 12b, two side walls 12c and 12d, and a top and bottom wall 12e and 12f respectively. The bottom wall 12f may include a drain 14. In one embodiment of the apparatus 10, the walls of cabinet 12 are insulated. The apparatus 10 may be connected to a water supply by a hose 16 and an electrical supply by conductors 18.

Please replace paragraph 40 (page 8, lines 3-13 of the original specification) with the following paragraph.

Referring to FIGS. 2A-2E, the hanger bar 30 may be configured with variable width hanger notches 32 that automatically adjust to the hanger width to align the hangers in a parallel manner. The variable width notch 32 may include a sliding notch wall 33. An actuator 35, or other similar device, may be used to control the width of the notch 32 by moving the sliding notch wall 33 in and out of the notch 32. In one embodiment, the actuator 35 may include an elongated horizontal member 37 that extends the length of the hanger bar 30. The elongated horizontal member 37 may include a number of spaced apart vertical members 39, one vertical member for each variable width notch. As shown in FIGS. 2C-2E, the vertical member 39 may be coupled to the sliding notch wall 33 of its respective variable width notch 32 with a spring 41.

Please replace paragraph 45 (page 9, lines 25-29 of the original specification) with the following paragraph.

FIG. 4 is a ~~perspective view of~~ functional block diagram illustrating a water system, which may be used during the wash and rinse cycles. In the water system, water may enter the sub-cabinet 24 through a ~~the~~ water inlet 80 attached to the water supply hose 16. A water pump 82 may be configured ~~used~~ to pump either return water from the drain 14 or fresh water from the water supply hose 80, through a heater 84 to the manifold 40. A flexible pipe 86 may be used to connect a rigid pipe 85 extending from the heater 84 to the manifold 40.

Please replace paragraph 48 (page 10, lines 14-21 of the original specification) with the following paragraph.

FIG. 5 is a ~~perspective view of an~~ functional block diagram illustrating a closed-loop air system, which may be used during the drying and steam cycle. In the air system, air may be drawn from ~~an exhaust port 98 within the cabinet 12~~ through an air intake port 98 by a blower 100. The blower 100 may be a variable speed or fixed speed blower. A condenser 102 may be inserted in-line between the air intake ~~exhaust~~ port 98 and the blower 100. The condenser 102 may be used to remove water from the air drawn from the cabinet 12. The condensed water may be discharged through a water ejection tube 104. The water ejection tube 104 may be connected to the water outlet pipe 96 in the water system.